

REMARKS

By the above amendment, the patented status of the parent application has been updated in the specification and claim 2 has been amended to overcome the informality as noted by the Examiner such that the rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph should now be overcome.

The allowance of claims 4 - 8 is acknowledged.

As to the rejection of claims 1 - 3 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 - 3 of US Patent No. 6,597,712 which is the patent issuing from the parent application of this continuation application, applicants note that such rejection can be overcome by the submission of a Terminal Disclaimer. Without acquiescing in the propriety of the rejection of claims 1 - 3 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, in order to expedite the issuance of this application, submitted herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer and the appropriate fee therefor. Thus, applicants submit that this rejection should now be overcome.

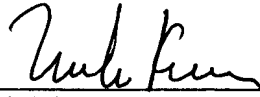
In view of the amendment of claim 2 which overcomes the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer thereby overcoming the rejection of claims 1 - 3 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, applicants submit that claims 1 - 3, in addition to claims 4 - 8, should now be in condition for allowance and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli,

Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.40459CX1),
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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